year, and raising the maximum number of pupils to be taught in Form I from 25 to 30.

39. **Elementary Education.**—The growing demand for Elementary education called for the exclusive attention of a controlling officer, who combined in him a sound knowledge of the Vernacular with a thorough experience of local conditions. Mr. P. Ramaswami Aiyar, the Deputy Director of Public Instruction, was accordingly divested of the duties of Personal Assistant to the Director and placed in direct charge of Elementary education for boys, with effect from the 1st Chingam 1092. The number of Elementary schools rose from 1,917 to 2,317 and their strength from 2,43,604 to 2,96,104, the percentage of increase being 21·6, against 18·1 in 1090 and 9·5 in 1089. The policy of opening relief schools in view to the removal of congestion in Elementary schools, brought into operation in 1090, was steadily pursued. Not only were lower grade schools started in large numbers in the vicinity of higher grade schools, but the principle of the scheme was extended by the opening of higher grade classes in lower grade schools. The year was free from complaints of the refusal of admission to pupils for want of accommodation. There was an increase in strength in all the classes. The minimum requirements of a school-house for purposes of recognition and grant were defined, so as to admit of the free growth of private schools. 377 Elementary schools were started under private management during the year. Government note with pleasure the active interest displayed by private bodies and gentlemen in starting and maintaining schools. The number of pupils registered for the Elementary School Leaving Certificate Examination rose from 2,827 to 3,952, giving an increase of 39·8 per cent. Since the close of 1091, a scheme for the introduction of Manual Training in Elementary schools has been sanctioned.

40. **Female Education.**—Female education continued to maintain its high level. The Girls' schools rose from 323 to 341. Further facilities for the spread of female education were afforded by permitting the admission of girls into the first two classes of Boys' schools. That this concession was necessary is evidenced by the fact that over 47,000 girls were under instruction in boys' schools during the year. The total number of girls under instruction rose from 73,832 to 91,610. Of these, 50 girls were undergoing instruction in Colleges and 2,548 in Secondary schools. The revision of the curriculum of studies in Girls' schools is under consideration.

41. **Training.**—A Vernacular Higher Grade Trained Teachers' Certificate Examination was instituted for teachers for the higher grade classes of Elementary schools. Two of the Lower Grade Training schools, *viz.*, those at Kottarakara and Changanachery, were converted into Higher Grade Training schools in Malayalam, and the Nagercoil Training School was converted into a combined Higher and Lower Grade Tamil Training school. The course of studies for the Higher Grade Certificate was modified so as to admit of greater attention being paid to the study of such subjects as Hygiene and Agriculture. With a view to secure efficiency of teaching, the ten mofussil training schools were amalgamated with the Elementary schools which contained their Practising classes. Arrangements have been made for the training of a larger number of teachers in the Trivandrum Higher Grade Training School for Women from 1093.

42. **Technical Education.**—Year after year, the number of pupils who appear for the School Leaving Certificate Examinations is on the increase, and the existence of a large body of 'unemployed literates' is a serious problem for solution. In order to divert the course of studies in Elementary schools from purely literary into industrial and practical channels, provision was made experimentally in six Departmental Higher Grade Elementary schools for teaching some craft or industry of local importance. It is hoped that the practical turn thus given to Elementary education will be appreciated, and, if the measure proves a success, the scheme will be gradually extended. Instruction in commercial subjects is reported to have been introduced in two private Higher Grade Secondary schools. Besides the Weaving Institute, Nagercoil, and the Carpentry School, Quilon, both of which are departmental technical

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